

From a *gentle rustling* to **pounding thunders**,
our **ALMIGHTY GOD** speaks



“I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Hosts,” he replied, “but the Israelites have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I am the only one left, and they are seeking my life as well.” Then the LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD. Behold, the LORD is about to pass by.” And **a great and mighty wind tore into the mountains and shattered the rocks** before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was **an earthquake**, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was **a fire**, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was **the sound of gentle rustling**” (I Kings 19:10-12).



Elijah presents himself before Almighty God at a very low point in his life. He is feeling that all is lost. God’s people have all forsaken the covenant they made with Almighty God—their King, and killed the prophets leaving only Elijah, who is hiding to save himself. Jezebel vowed, “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them [Elijah killed all of her prophets]” (I Kings 19:1). The gods are real and at that time, very powerful. Elijah witnessed the wild cruelty and irrational fury of the gods ruling over the nations. He knew Jezebel was committed to serving them and watched the gods use her extensively as a weapon against God’s people. From Elijah’s perspective, the God of Israel appeared to be struggling against the power of the gods.

So, God told Elijah to go out from the cave because He was going to pass by. The presence of Almighty God comes with the ominous power of a mighty wind that can tear down mountains into shattered rocks. This imagery is common in the Bible. God's power is expressed as the powerful east wind that pushed His rebel people westward. God is using His imagery to demonstrate to Elijah that He is fully able of destroying powerful, vast kingdoms on earth—imaged as mountains, through the force of His mighty Holy Spirit expressed in the image of wind.

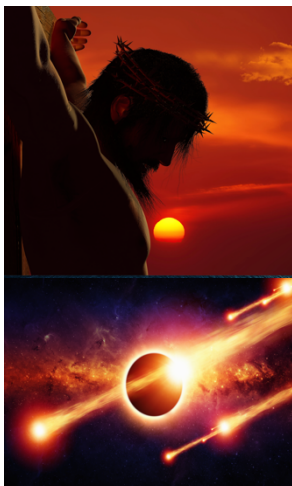
Zerubbabel was the governor of Judah during Zechariah's time. He will be resurrected at the return of Christ and finish the job given to him. He will walk on a plain. God uses that imagery to describe the collapse of all the insurmountable obstacles, the world-ruling governments that were present then and remain present today under Satan's rule.

“What are you, **O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become a plain.** Then he will bring forth the capstone accompanied by shouts of ‘Grace, grace to it!’” (Zechariah 4:7) The great mountain—world-ruling government will be overthrown and made flat.



“This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, **but by My Spirit**, says the LORD of Hosts” (Zechariah 4:2-5, 6). Through truth—God's word and the enforcement of His law, God will bring down the towering corrupt world-government [O great mountain] entrapping and enslaving God's people on earth. God's Holy Spirit will fill the world at that time. People will surrender their weapons and choose life, eternal.

Then, a great earthquake will take place. Great earthquakes shake the whole earth at the completion of a witnesses that is imperative in the plan of God for mankind.



A great earthquake shook when Jesus died on the cross. He completed his witness to God's people.

“When Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, He yielded up His spirit. At that moment the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. **The earth quaked and the rocks were split**” (Matthew 27:50-51).

A great earthquake will shake earth when Jesus Christ opens the sixth seal. The sun will turn black “like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like

a scroll, rolling up, and **every mountain and island was removed from its place**" (Revelation 6:12-14). The church will have completed their witness to the world.

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14).



At the seventh seal and after the sixth trumpet is blown, a severe earthquake will shake the earth again declaring the completion of the witness of the two witnesses.

"But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them. Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here.' And they went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies looked on. **At that every hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed.** Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven" (Revelation 11:11-13).



After the seventh trumpet is blown, God Almighty declares the end of the great battle over His kingdom. He declares the King and Lord of His kingdom, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 11:15). "Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of His covenant. And **there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a great hailstorm**" (Revelation 11:19).



Every earthquake completed a marker along God's timeline for mankind. Finally, the last earthquake in Revelation 17 signals the close of this evil age. "The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, 'It is done!' **Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed**" (Revelation 17:17-19a).



The final cleansing of Wickedness is the destruction of the rebels in that fiery lake at the end of this evil age. The beast and the false prophet are thrown into the fiery lake of burning sulfur (Revelation 19:20). After the Millennial reign of Christ, Satan is released who then allies with God's final enemy that He will save for last, Gog of Magog. They surround the peaceful and God-fearing people of 31st century Israel with rebels on earth who work with Gog and his

hordes to totally destroy them. “But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. **And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur**” (Revelation 20:9b-10a). The final great day of judgement discloses the names of those whose names are not found in the book of life and they, too, are thrown into the lake of fire. Heaven and earth will be now all cleansed of wickedness.

With only the righteous before Almighty-All-Powerful God, He will speak to them like a gentle breeze, an intimate whisper as their loving Father for all eternity. His righteous children in the new heaven and on the new earth will call Him “Abba, Father”.

“For you did not receive a spirit of slavery that returns you to fear, but **you received the Spirit of sonship, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”** (Romans 8:15)

On the day that Elijah thought his final day would come at the hands of Jezebel, God disclosed to him all that needed to happen before Wickedness is destroyed:

- **The power of wind—A WITNESS first to God’s people then to the whole world:** through God’s Holy Spirit His word and law will testify against Wickedness. Truth will overpower lies and deception. God’s law will be enforced, prosecutions will take place, the wicked will be destroyed.
- **A series of earthquakes—DECLARATIONS OF JUDGEMENT:** will mark the completion of every significant witness that leads to judgement in the God’s plan for mankind.
- **Fire—DESTRUCTION:** will destroy the wicked spirit beings and all whose names are not written in the book of life. These are the hybrids and people whose names have been erased because they will not repent. These unrepentant people may have modified their DNA to become a different species.

God assured Elijah that he was not alone. Unknown to Elijah, God said, “I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him” (1 Kings 19:18). The number 7,000 is very telling. It has the meaning of total completion eternally. God is reminding Elijah that He is fully in-charge and when all is said and done, a totally complete number of His people will receive life-eternal and serve in His family forever. No matter how dark times become, God remains fully in-charge. His plan cannot be thwarted. Though there has been and continues today and into the future much suffering and still, more years of darkness, injustice, corruption, lies and deception, it will not destroy the righteous rather strengthen them in preparation for their eternal reign as royal members of God’s holy family-kingdom.

God is not cold and calloused. Suffering is the ingredient that tests and purifies. “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away” (Revelation 21:4). God’s intimate touch is a gentle rustling.

God put Elijah back to work. “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over

Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu" (I Kings 19: 15-17).

Later, after Elisha, Elijah's successor, anointed Jehu king over Israel, Jezebel was killed and all Israel was cleansed of idol worship and service to the fallen angels/rogue sons of God ruling over the nations. God had at one time, much love for these sons of God ruling over the nations, but they fell into sin as their pride grew into arrogance and they sought full control over Almighty, All-Powerful, Supreme Ruler, God.

As God's people who become a kingdom of priests mature spiritually, their relationship with God will change in that day. Declares the LORD, "You will call Me 'my Husband,' and no longer call Me 'my Master.' For I will remove from her lips [that is, God's people—a holy church] the names of the Baals; no longer will their names be invoked" (Hosea 2:16-17).

The gods who wielded great power over the nations on earth and caused so much suffering and hardship will be silenced!

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea [home of Wickedness]. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God'" (Revelation 21:1-3).

While Elijah saw only devastation and darkness, God—the Alpha and Omega—saw the outcome of a people who rebelled against Him and who He divorced from the covenant family, repent and seek Him with all their heart, mind and soul. They will cry out to Him and He will hear them. "I have surely heard Ephraim's moaning: 'You disciplined me severely, like an untrained calf. Restore me, that I may return, for You are the LORD my God. After I returned, I repented; and after I was instructed, I struck my thigh in grief. I was ashamed and humiliated because I bore the disgrace of my youth.'" God replied, "Is not Ephraim a precious son to Me, a delightful child? Though I often speak against him, I still remember him. Therefore, My heart yearns for him; I have great compassion for him," declares the LORD (Jeremiah 31:18-20).

Ephraim is the leader of the ten-tribed house of Israel, the very house that brought so much grief for Elijah. This twelve-nationed people of Israel into the 21st century will repent and become the leaders they once were like Joseph, Debra, Joshua and Samuel.

"For there will be a day when watchmen will call out on the hills [local governments] of Ephraim, 'Arise, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God!'" (Jeremiah 31:6). That day is soon, very soon.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich

www.sharingsharpens.ca